(b) Review by Government on the working of the Society.

[Placed in Libarary. *See* No. LT-5705/88 for (a) and (b)].

SPECIAL MENTION

ALLEGED UNAUTHORISED OPERATION OF FOREIGN CURRENCY ACCOUNTS ABROAD BY AN INDIAN COMPANY

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदया किसी भी भारतीय के लिये या भारतीय कंपनी के लिये विदेशों में विदेशी मुद्रा में धन जमा करना एक गंभीर अपराध है । सरकार यह दावा करती रही है कि आर्थिक अपराधों को वह समाप्त करना चाहती है और ऐसे अपराधियों को कानून के अंतर्गत वह कठोर दंड देना चाहती है । लेकिन आज एक ऐसा मामला प्रकाश में आया है जिससे सरकार का यह दावा न केवल खोखला सिद्ध होता है लेकिन सरकार पर यह अभियोग भी बनता है कि उसने इस तरह के एक मामले को दबाने की कोशिश की ।

महोदया, कलकत्ता की एक कंपनी है स्टीलाल ऐंड लिमिटेड । 1980 से ई. एम. सी. स्टीलाल ऐंड लिमिटेड कंपनी दबई में अपना हिसाब रख रही है । 9 सितम्बर 1981 में इस एकाउन्ट में 6 मिलियन सेविन हुंड्रेड 50 थाजेंड 34 दीनार्स जमा किये गये । यह मामला सरकार के ध्यान में लाया गया । मेरे पास रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया का 10 नवम्बर 1981 का एक पत्र है । मेरी जानकारी केवल इंडियन एक्सप्रेस में छपी हुई रिपोर्ट के आधार पर नहीं है । मैं उन दस्तावेजों को सभा पटल पर रखने के लिये तैयार हूं जो इस बात की पुष्टि करते हैं कि इस कपनी ने विदेशों में हिसाब खोला । उसके लिये रिजर्व बैंक की परमिशन नहीं ली और सरकार को जब यह मामला पता लगा तो सरकार ने थोड़ी सी जांच की । लेकिन ऊपर का दबाव आने पर वह जांच बंद कर दी गयी ।

मैं उद्धृत करना चाहता हूं । यह सरकार की चिट्ठी है । मैं इसे आर्थे-टिकेट करके सभा पटल पर रखने के लिये तैयार हूं ।

उपसभापति : इसे आप सभा पटल पर नहीं रख सकते हैं ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : यह कंट्रोलर ने चिट्ठी लिखी है 10 नवम्बर, 1981 को To the Assistant Director, Enforcement Directorate (FERA), Government of India, Calcutta Zonal Office.

"Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter No. dated 13th October, 1981, we advise that we do not appear to have given permission to the captioned company to maintain foreign currency account abroad. Nor does it appear to have declared the same to us."

इसके बाद का पत्र है जो श्री ए. के. राय चौधरी, डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर ने लिखा है । यह पत्र लिखा है श्री एच. एस. बिद्रा, डाइरेक्टर, इंफोर्समेंट डाइरेक्टोरेट को । यह 2 जनवरी 1982 का पत्र है । इसको मैं उद्धृत करना चाहता हूं । मैं इसको सभा पटल पर रखने के लिये तैयार हूं । मैं इसकी पूरी जिम्मेदारी लेता हूं ।

उपसभापति : आप इसको मिनिस्टर को भेज सकते हैं । ऐसा कोई कायदा नहीं है कि इसको सभा पटल पर रखा जाय । You can send it to the Minister.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : मैं इसको उद्धृत करना चाहता हूं ।

"We have received information through secret source 'x' to the effect that E.M.S. Steelal Limited, 51 Canal East Road, Calcutta, has been maintaining Account No. 5928.3 with the Algemene Bank Nederland N.V. Dubai. We have ascertained from the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay that the captioned company have not been given any per-

mission to maintain such foreign currency accounts.

यह 2 जनवरी 1982 का पत्र है।

"Our enquiry reveals that company belong to Shri O.M. Khosla and Mahendra Nath. Shri Mahendra Nath is the father of...."

आगे नहीं पढ़ रहा हूं। पत्र आगे कहता है:

I forward herewith copies of the secret source report and Reserve Bank of India's letter dated 10th November, 1981, for your kind perusal and further inspection in this matter.

महोदया, एक भारतीय कंपनी विदेशों में दो एकाउंट रख रही है जिसमें विदेशी मुद्रा में करोड़ों रुपए जमा किए गए हैं। 1981 से यह काम चल रहा है। सरकार को इस बारे में जानकारी मिली थी, उस कंपनी के दफ्तर पर छापे मारे गए, कंपनी से जुड़े हुए एक व्यक्ति के घर पर छापा मारा गया, पर नई दिल्ली से प्रेशर शुरू हुआ और सारा मामला ठप्प कर दिया गया, सारी जांच समाप्त कर दी गई। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि यह मामला गंभीर है। इस मामले को इंडियन ऐक्सप्रेस ने उठाया है, मैं उसका आभारी हूं, कुछ हमारे पास भी दस्तावेज हैं। मैं चाहूंगा कि सरकार इस बारे में स्पष्टीकरण दे और यह बताए कि जब उसकी जानकारी में यह मामला था, तो उसने इस कंपनी और उसके अधिकारियों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I wish to associate myself with this Special Mention. I wish to place the documents on the Table of the House. Can you please permit?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no such rule.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, I take the responsibility for these papers. I want to know whether I can place these documents....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Listen. You see, you have asked for permission. I am giving you the permission. But then there is no such provision that the Member can place the papers on the Table of the House. You can send them to the Minister if he wants you to provide them. Then he shall look into them.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): Madam, may I know under what rule the discussion is going on? Is it a special mention or what? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Madam, we have no objection, but we would like to know, is it a special mention or what?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special mention.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Madam, this nation and this Parliament....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take care of the time.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:.... do not seem to have any breathing spell from scandals (*Interruptions*). I am speaking on my special mention.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. It is a special mention that I have permitted. I know what is going on.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): But let him confine to the subject.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am as much agitated as you are on this account.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. Please do not reply to them.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: May I refer to the special mention made by my colleague here and today's Indian Express given a story.... (*Interruptions*). I am seeking clarifications. Let me go on. Why are you agitated?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Why do you defend every illegal act?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I think the whole Parliament is concerned. It is agitated over it.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): I am sorry that every illegal act is defended by them.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am sorry that Indian Express today carries a story and the headline given is "An MP and two accounts". My friend, Shri Vajpayee has referred to this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have to pass the Constitution Amendment Bill. Please do not waste the time.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): Madam, they are raising the same issue.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please, sit down. It is a special mention which has been permitted and others are associating. You see they are associating. I have permitted them and let them finish within the time which has been given to them. You have to pass the Constitution Amendment Bill after that. So, let us finish it within the specified time.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Madam, I am referring to the Indian Express because if Arun Shourie has committed any breach of privilege, he must be held responsible. Otherwise we must be told the truth; there is no way out. That is why I refer to Indian Express....

SHRI B. L. PANWAR (Rajasthan): Madam, on a point of order.... (*Interruptions*). There has been a ruling of the Chair that no newspaper can be taken as ground to refer a matter in the House. There is a ruling of the Chair; I can quote that ruling.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: When was that?

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: When was that given?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: My simple proposition is, if the paper and Mr. Arun Shourie have committed any breach of privilege, action has to be taken against them; otherwise truth has to be told. According to the story, two accounts have been maintained by E.M.C. Steelal Limited; one in Saudi Arabia and the other in Dubai. It amounts to about Rs. 5 crore and it refers to the years 1981-82. What subsequently happened, we don't know. This E.M.C. Steelal Limited has been committing this offence, according to my information, even till today. That is my information and it is for the enquiry to find out. I would like to know specifically why this matter was not enquired into. I am told the Enforcement Directorate, Calcutta, started an enquiry but this was nipped in the bud at the intervention from Delhi. Why was it so? Why was it done? What is the final position of these accounts, I want to know, and whether any action has been taken against the culprits. A Member of Parliament and others are involved. This is what has been mentioned in the paper; but I am not mentioning the names. I would like to know what action is being taken against the culprits, against the guilty party concerned, and I would also like to know whether Reserve Bank of India has taken note of the infringement of FERA in this particular matter.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Madam, I would not have liked to associate myself on this but for the following facts. One is, that a Member of Parliament—not in our House—is involved.....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, that is not permitted.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: I am not mentioning the name; I said an M.P.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can as well say, a company. That has been agreed to.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: I abide by your directions. I say simply that a newspaper....

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: I have a submission to make... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing it. Let him finish. I know what it is. Please sit down. He is finishing in one minute. Why do you prolong it?

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: What I was referring to was that the newspapers have gone into a habit of maligning many VIPs in many publications. That has be stopped. But if somebody is cocerned belonging to this House, we should form a Privilege Committee and if somebody of Lok Sabha is concerned, it is their business to form a Privelege Committee to enquire into such assaults by the press on any VIP who may be affected in this manner. This is an important matter and this is point number one.

Secondly, when another case was referred to earlier in the House, we made a point that under such circumstance when VIPs are involved, it should be seen that they do not come under the umbrella of the VVIPs. Now once again the suggestion of the press is that one VIP about whom investigation is about to be made, discussions are going from one city to another.. (*Time bell rings*). Why this was happening is because that VIP is supposed to be associated with the umbrella of a VVIP.

Therefore, Madam, I would like to say that not only this House or the concerned Minister should be involved but a Committee under the leadership of the Prime Minister himself should be formed to enquire into these matters. That is why I am associating myself with this issue.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Madam Deputy Chairman .. . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Come to this side for safety.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: All of you will come to our side ultimately, you don't worry.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): One day we are going to occupy that side.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You will join the Congress Patry and that is the only party which will save this country.

Madam, I am thankful to you for permitting me to raise this point. Actually, I wanted to raise this point, but you have already permitted some of my friends to speak or this. I am not associating entirely with what my friends have stated but I have got my own view on this. I have also read the news. It is a grave news. It has also disturbed me and I was really thinking what to say on this.

Madam, here some aspersions have been cast. What Mr Vajpayee has read, these letters are also with me. It is not a point that somebody has got the material and I have not got I have also got the same material. But the point there is that the aspersions have been cast. Particularly, I am sorry to say, Mr. Arun Shourie might be a personal friend of mine but the trend of this writing I take strong objection to.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: You should congratulate him.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): He is taking his name. He cannot defend himself. He is not present here.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: The article is written under his name. (*Interruptions*). My objection is about the facts and I have got something else to say. But about the tenor of that article. I have already submitted a privilege motion against Mr. Arun Shourie because...

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Madhya Pradesh): We welcome it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:...he has denigrated the parliamentary institution. That is very objectionable—denigrating the parliamentary institution. Two or three days back we heard our friends saying that morality in polity is going down.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: But this has brought down the image of India.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Mr. Gopalsamy, can I say that your leader was also involved in such matters?

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Because he opposed some of them.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: All these cinemawallas are involved in this MGR, Karunanidhi—all are involved. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: All cinemawallas except Ronald Reagan and Amitabh Bachchan.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Bofors and Bachchans.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Madam, it is denigrating the institution of Parliament. One has to be very careful. I will request the friends from the opposite side, please don't denigrate the institution of Parliament. There might be some personalities who may have done some acts which might attract some violation of the laws of RBI or FERA or whatever it is. What I want to say is, scandalising and denigrating Parliament is a wrong thing. Madam, what they have referred to relates to 1982 perhaps when Kuo deal was dicussed here. I was one of the persons who attacked the Government to bring out facts. Similarly, Madam, I will request the Government and I am aware and I am sure that the Government of Shri Rajiv Gandhi will a definitely enquire into this. It is no use scandalising and blowing out of proportion a matter. If a person who has committed something wrong, has got some morality, as I advised NTR at that time "if you have got some morality, it is upto you"... (*Interruptions*). So the Opposition should not think that we are lacking. We do request our Government that they should enquire into this and inform Parliament what the truth is about this.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Kuo deal was opposed by you. Are you sure that it was investigated?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Why are you shouting? Please do take care of some of your Chief Ministers.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please stop it now. Bill for introduction. (*Interruptions*) No, no, you spoke.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, I have permission to speak. You said that you will give me a chance to speak. You must give me permission now. I was the first to make a request for this Special Mention.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Wait, please. Don't shout. I cannot allow two or three Members of one party to speak Listen. Why are you not listening to me, please? I have received three names, Mr. Upendra, Prof. Lakshmanna and Mrs. Chowdhury. She spoke after Mr. Vajpayee spoke and then Mr. Gurupadaswamy spoke.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: It is on record. Madam. You said, "I will give you permission." You can refer to the records.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA. Shouting is not a speech.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Upendra, that shouting was with my permission. So, that has gone on record.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, you should allow.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN All right. One minute. I will permit you.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, I thank you very much for...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't create any more shouting now.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHARY: Number one. I agree with my hon. colleague, Mr. Kulkarni that we should not denigrate Parliament. To that extent I agree.

Number two, I want to say specifically, I am not referring to the "INDIAN EXPRESS" or any other newspaper because I have independent access to the information which is here in my hand.

The most important point to be examined in this is that the Government already know these facts. If the Government is aware of these facts, why has the Government not taken action regarding this? If it has taken cognizance of this offence, then what action has already been taken regarding this issue?

Madam, I would like to forward these papers to you. I seek your protection. I would like to forward these facts to you so that you may take necessary action.

About other Members' reservations regarding denigration of Parliament etc. etc. by an individual, I am not concerned with that. I am concerned with the violation of what the country has laid down.

Regarding the RBI, I have a statement to the effect that the Government is already in the knowledge of what has happened. This is a sad reflection of the state of affairs that despite knowing this, it is silent? Why is it silent? If we do not take action, we are accessories to the crime, we are party to the crime.

Madam, may I forward these papers to you?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You forward by post. (*Interruptions*)

THE CONSTITUTION (FIFTW-NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL, 1988

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Buta Singh.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): We oppose the introduction. We have given notice.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): I have objection to the introduction of the Bill.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): We oppose the introduction of the Bill. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Buta Singh. They have to oppose, yes, after you introduce.

Why are you shouting? Please wait. After he seeks permission to move the motion for introduction, I will allow you. Why don't you follow the procedure. (*Interruptions*)

He is seeking leave of the House to introduce it. You don't know the rule. Please sit down.

I am going according to the rule. Don't come in my way now please. I will not allow all these things. Order please. Yes, Mr. Buta Singh.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India. (*Interruptions*).

The question was proposed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Advani, I am giving you permission.

Why are you shouting? You are unnecessarily creating disturbance in the House. (*Interruptions*)

I am sorry, I am very sorry the hon. Members do not know the procedure of the House. I am allowing Mr. Advani. He has given notice for opposing.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: We have also given notice. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I am not allowing all this.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: We want to oppose. We have given notice. All of us should be permitted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. (*Interruptions*) I am on my legs. Please sit down. I will tell you why. (*Interruptions*) I know that. I have received notice from about 14 or 15 Members. That notice has been received. But then I would like to point out to you, the Practice and Procedure of Parliament by M. L. Kaul and S. L. Shakdher at page 469 mentions: "By convention, the motion for introduction . ."

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: What convention? (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, you don't know.